



-1-

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: : Before the Examiner:  
Jeffrey M. Achtermann et al. : L. Jacobs

Serial No.: 09/438,437 : Group Art Unit: 2157

Filed: November 12, 1999 :

Title: AN APPARATUS AND METHOD : IBM Corporation  
FOR DISTRIBUTING AND : Intellectual Property Law  
COLLECTING BULK DATA BETWEEN : 11400 Burnet Road  
A LARGE NUMBER OF MACHINES : Austin, Texas 78758

REPLY TRANSMITTAL

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

RECEIVED

JUL 15 2004

Technology Center 2100

Sir:

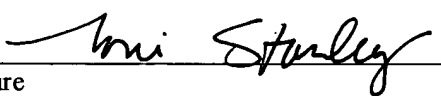
Transmitted herewith is a Fourth Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 and Acknowledgement  
Postcard for the above-identified Application.

- ☒ No additional fee is required.
- ☐ The fee has been calculated as shown below:

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CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on July 9, 2004.

  
Signature

Toni Stanley  
(Printed name of person certifying)

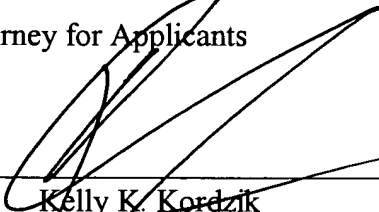
CLAIMS AS AMENDED						
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMEN T		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
Total Claims:	22	-	22	0	x \$18 =	\$ 0.00
Independent Claims:	3	-	3	0	x \$86 =	\$ 0.00
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT						\$ 0.00

- ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 09-0447 (AT9-99-274) in the amount of \$0. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is enclosed.
- ☒ The Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 09-0447 (AT9-99-274). A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is enclosed.
- ☒ Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116.
- ☒ Any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

WINSTEAD SECHREST & MINICK P.C.

Attorney for Applicants

By:   
 Kelly K. Kordzik  
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 Dallas, Texas 75201  
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T9-99-274

PATENT

2157

- 1 -

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	:	Before the Examiner:
Jeffrey M. Achtermann et al.	:	Lashonda T. Jacobs
Serial No.: 09/438,437	:	Group Art Unit: 2157
Filed: November 12, 1999	:	
Title: AN APPARATUS AND METHOD	:	IBM Corporation
FOR DISTRIBUTING AND	:	Intellectual Property Law
COLLECTING BULK DATA BETWEEN	:	11400 Burnet Road
A LARGE NUMBER OF MACHINES	:	Austin, Texas 78758

**FOURTH REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

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Technology Center 2100

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action having a mailing date of April 9, 2004 (Paper No. 9), with a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on July 9, 2004, please reconsider the rejection of the claims in view of the following remarks:

**Amendments** to the claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 7 of this paper.

**CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on 7-9, 2004.

Signature

Toni Stanley

(Printed name of person certifying)